

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I want to know whether he has applied for extension.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, I doubt whether it is a supplementary question.

PRESIDENT: I think it is.

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Then my answer is that he has not applied.

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to the Legislative Council*): Question No. 181 (152).

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): I have not finished; I want to ask another question.

In case extension is not given to the Chief Justice, do the Government intend importing an outsider?

PRESIDENT: That does not arise.

*Law Officers of Government.*

152. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Are the Government aware that there is a strong feeling in the country because the Head Sirkar Vakil, the Additional Head Sirkar Vakil, and their Assistants, all belong to one community?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Government are not aware.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): If the Government are not aware, let me assure them that there is a strong feeling in the country.

PRESIDENT: That is not a question. (*Laughter.*)

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Are the Government aware that all the above-mentioned officers belong to one community?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That is implied in the question itself.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Do they not see that it is a matter of injustice done to other communities?

PRESIDENT: I am afraid that question must be disallowed, because it carries an insinuation with it.

*Non-Brahmin Hindu Officers and the Education Department.*

153. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Are the Government aware that for some years past Nair and other non-Brahmin Hindu officers have not been receiving adequate encouragement in the Education Department?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The answer is in the negative.

*Purchase of Foreign Articles for Government Use.*

154. MR. M. R. MADHA VA VARIAR (*Chengannur cum Patanantitta*): Will the Government be pleased to furnish a statement of the quantity of foreign articles purchased from India and outside, for the use of the various departments of the State, together with the total amount spent by each department for the purchase thereof?

[Mr. R. Krishna Pillai.]

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government are unable to furnish an answer as the period for which the information is required has not been specified.

MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur cum Pattanam-titta*): Will the Government be pleased to furnish an answer if the question relates to the year 1098?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes; but not immediately, because the necessary information has to be called for.

*Opium Monopoly.*

155. MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur cum Pat-tanam-titta*): Will the Government be pleased to give a statement showing:

(a) the amount of money spent by the Government for the purchase of opium from Madras;

(b) the price of opium and the duty paid thereon;

(c) the duty levied in Travancore; and

(d) the duty derived by the Government from this transaction?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(a) The amount depends upon the price fixed by the Madras Government for opium from time to time.

(b) This Government now gets opium from Madras at Bh. Rs. 70 per seer, which is made up of Rs. 23, being the cost price, and Rs. 47, being the duty charged by the Madras Government.

(c) and (d) No duty is levied on opium in Travancore. But opium is sold to the licensed shopkeepers at Rs. 2 per seer more than the price paid to the British Government. The excess of Rs. 2 covers transport and other incidental charges.

*Expenditure on British Empire Exhibition.*

156. MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur cum Pat-tanam-titta*): Will the Government be pleased to state what sum has hitherto been spent for the British Empire Exhibition by the Travancore Government and how many rupees more the Government intend to spend on that behalf?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): A sum of Rs. 41,739 has been spent on account of the British Empire Exhibition till the end of Dhanu, 1099. Rs. 43,181 more will be required during this year.

MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur cum Pattanam-titta*): May I know whether the Government contemplate spending any more money next year on this account?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No definite answer can be given now.